CLAM/QUAHOG FISHERY SAMPLING PRIORITIES

- **Every haul** should be observed, *i.e.* complete catch information for both kept and discarded species is recorded, during on-watch periods.
- Collection of length frequencies should occur at least after **every other observed haul**.
- At minimum, **half** of the hauls should be observed and **one quarter** of the hauls should be biological sampled during a trip.

CLAM/QUAHOG SHELL HEIGHT FREQUENCIES

- A random sample of at least 30 clams/quahogs should be collected and measured **from each disposition** (*i.e.* kept and discarded).
- Generally, clam/quahog shell height frequency sampling should be the first priority for all hauls, with finfish sampling being second priority.
- For **at least** one haul per watch, finfish sampling should be first priority.

FINFISH SAMPLING

- Collect finfish length frequencies and age structures as a first priority for at least one haul per watch, and on additional hauls, as time permits.
- If a haul has an exceptionally large amount of finfish bycatch, finfish sampling should become first priority for that haul.

Table 1h. Length frequency and age structures sampling for the clam/quahog fisheries

Species	Length Frequencies		Age Structures	
	Kept	Discard	Kept	Discard
Clam, Surf	1	1	-	-
Flounder, nk	3	3	2	2
Flounder, Summer	2	2	1	1
Flounder, Yellowtail	2	2	1	1
Monkfish	2	2	1	1
Quahog, Ocean	1	1	-	-
Scallop, Sea	1	1	-	-
Skate, Barndoor	-	2	-	-
Skate, nk	3	3	-	-

**Skate, nk = single skate species
**Flounder, nk = single flounder

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